

WPD School Outreach 2015-2016 School Year



EARTH CAMP 2015-2016



Background

Earth Camp began in 1997 as a City of Austin Watershed Protection Department field science study program to promote water quality protection.

www.austintexas.gov/earthcamp Video about the program -
www.youtube.com/watch?v=5m_Br6GgUaU&feature=player_embedded

Earth Camp targets fifth-grade students attending Title I schools in AISD. Students attend during school hours, and all content is correlated to Texas schools standards.

Participating schools attend Earth Camp for free. Teachers receive 6 hours of Continuing Professional Education credit, classroom curriculum, and assist students during Earth Camp field investigations. The City of Austin provides the environmental expertise, teacher training, field trips, tours, lessons, and equipment that make Earth Camp a success.



Teacher Comment: *"We couldn't ask for a more perfect opportunity to use their experiences when talking about weathering, erosion and deposition...THANK YOU!!!" "Fabulous experience for our students!"*

Results

Total number of students reached: **697**

Participating Schools:

Andrews*	Langford	Padron	Williams*
Barrington*	Metz	Pecan Springs*	Winn*
Campbell	Norman	Reilly*	
Harris*	Ortega	Sims*	
Jordan	Overton*	Travis Heights	

*School participated in both Earth Camp and Teacher-Led because they have new teachers and veteran Earth Camp trained teachers.

TEACHER-LED EARTH CAMP

Background

Teacher-Led Earth Camp encourages Earth Camp trained and mentored AISD teachers to lead Earth Camp with the support of the City of Austin. This allows more classes to participate in Earth Camp than could otherwise be reached by City staff. The City pays for transportation, schedules the field trips, provides materials and hires trained teachers to lead part of the class in order to maintain the small group size necessary for hands-on learning in the field.

Teacher Comment. *“Earth Camp is amazing! It is a highlight of 5th grade.”*

“I have been participating for 11 years now and I have students that come back from college to visit and they always remember Earth Camp. It makes such a great positive lasting learning impact!!”

Results

Total number of students reached: **933**

Participating schools:

Andrews*	Dawson	Overton*	Sims*	Wooten
Barrington*	Guerrero-Thompson	Pecan Springs*	Sunset Valley	Zavala
Becker	Govalle	Reilly*	St. Elmo	
Blackshear	Harris*	Ridgetop	Williams	
Blazier	Joslin	Sanchez	Winn	



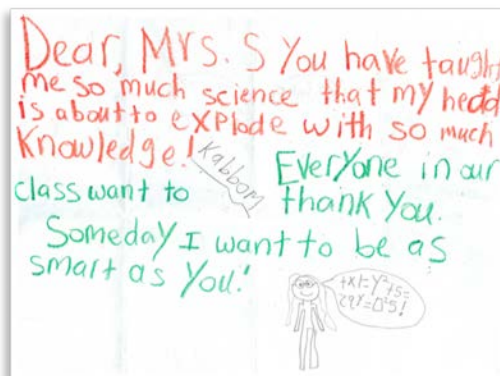
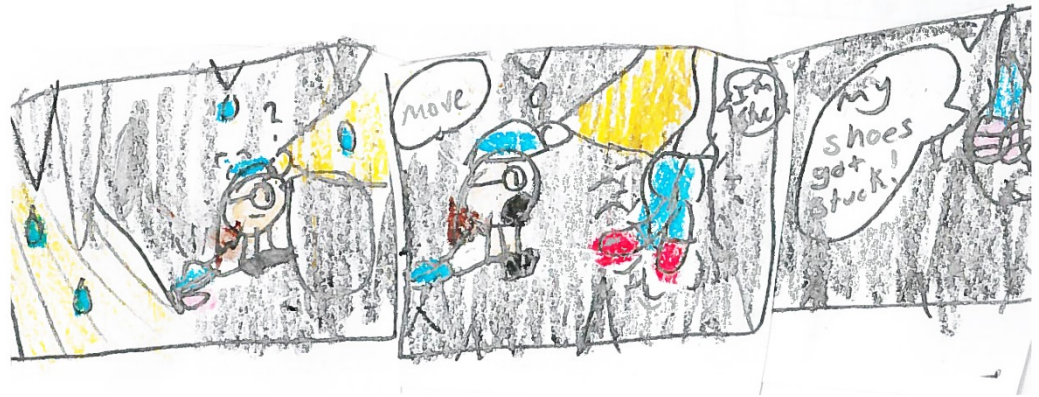
RESULTS



Total Schools Reached = 30 Schools

Pre to Post Test **Total Rate of IMPROVEMENT: 60%**

Total Student Participation = 1630 students



EARTH SCHOOL 2015-2016



Background

Earth School was established in 2003 to reach fifth graders in Austin that do not receive Earth Camp. Earth School provides a one-hour classroom presentation that covers customized information about Austin's watersheds, the Edwards Aquifer and local water quality issues. Students identify pollution threats in their neighborhood and model how water and pollution can flow across a watershed and through an aquifer. The curriculum is correlated with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. This program is offered to Austin schools (including Austin, Del Valle and Eanes Independent School Districts) for free by the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department.

www.austintexas.gov/earthschool



Teacher Comments: "The kids have a greater interest in protecting the environment after the presentation. Love the hands-on activities."
"Students were engaged, challenged and sharing background knowledge."

Results

Total number of students reached: **4,897**

Total number of schools reached: **54**

Participating schools: Austin, Del Valle*, and Eanes** Independent School Districts

Allison	Eanes**	Metz
Baldwin	Forest Trail**	Mills
Baranoff	Gilbert*	Oak Hill
Barton Creek**	Graham	Oak Springs
Barton Hills	Gullet	Odom
Blanton	Hart	Palm
Boone	Highland Park	Patton
Brentwood	Hillcrest*	Pease
Bridge Point**	Hornsby-Dunlap*	Pickle
Bryker Woods	Kiker	Pillow
Casey	Kocurek	Pleasant Hill
Cedar Creek**	Langford	Popham*
Clayton	Lee	Rodriguez
Cowan	Linder	Summitt
Creedmoor*	Maplewood	Widen
Cunningham	Mathews	Woolridge
Davis	McBee	Wooten

Clean Creek Campus 2015-2016



Background

The Clean Creek Campus program is a partnership between the City of Austin, Watershed Protection Department and Keep Austin Beautiful to provide students with hands on learning experiences about watersheds and our environment and inspire lifelong stewardship.

www.keeptaustinbeautiful.org/CleanCreekCampus

Teacher Comments: "Our students were so proud to help out the community and the school they pride. The students have taken on and are sharing with others at the school." Wooldridge E.S. teacher
"Great connection to a community resource and our lives. Lessons were fun, engaging, and thoughtful - I liked how they went beyond the "floor" of the TEKS and provided extensions of learning." Casis E.S. teacher



Results

Total number of students reached: **2,402**

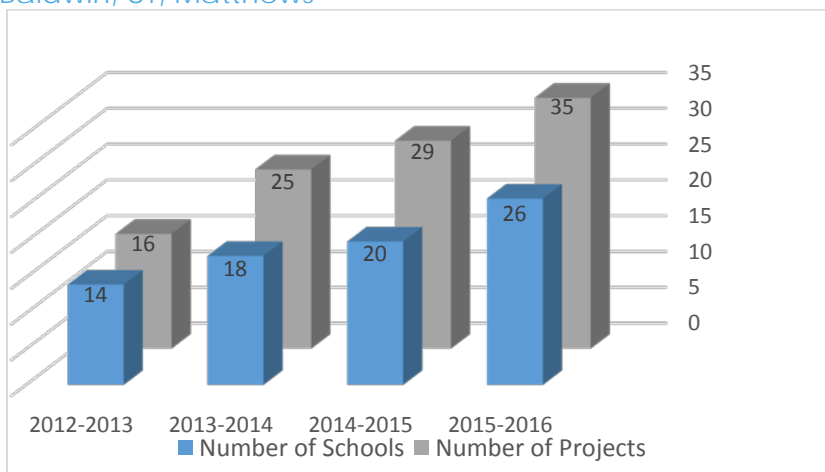
Total number of school reached: **26**

Total number of service projects: **35** (22 Restoration, 9 Edible Gardens, 4 Native Gardens)

Participating schools

Middle: [Not your Ordinary School](#), [Lamar](#), [IDEA Allan](#), [Harmony Science Academy](#)

Elementary: [Pease](#), [Langford](#), [Cunningham](#), [Williams](#), [Perez](#), [Sims](#), [Wooldridge](#), [Austin Jewish Academy](#), [St. Andrews](#), [Eanes](#), [Patton](#), [Cook](#), [Casis](#), [Ridgetop](#), [Norman](#), [Kiker](#), [Casey](#), [Hill](#), [Metz](#), [Baldwin](#), [UT](#), [Matthews](#)



Watershed Detectives 2015-2016



Background

Watershed Detectives is a middle school program that offers the Fish Kill Mystery curriculum and water quality Field Investigations to caves, creeks, and springs. In the Fish Kill Mystery, students conduct experiments using watershed models, identify locations on the land that drain to a pond where a fish kill occurred, and perform simulated water quality tests to determine what pollutant caused the fish kill, discover the source of contamination and provide solutions to pollution. Watershed Detectives Field Investigations provides educational support for field trips related to water quality issues, including caving into the Edwards Aquifer, water quality testing of local creeks and educational tours of Barton Springs. In Spring 2016, the Watershed Detectives program was awarded the Groundwater Stewardship Award for Education from the Barton Springs Conservation District for successfully engaging students in learning about water quality issues.

www.austintexas.gov/watershededetectives



Teacher Comments: “We loved it! We did the debate and all the supplemental activities. I got great feedback from the parents who saw their girls talking about their position at the dinner table! Thank you so much.”

“Teachers here at Gorzycki are really looking forward to teaching the Fish Kill Mystery again this year... I would like to thank you and your staff for the continuing aid you provide in the educational process for students at Gorzycki MS.”

Results

Total number of students reached by the Fish Kill Mystery: **1,073**

Total number of students reached by Field Investigations: **345**

Total number of schools reached: **11**

Participating schools: [Bailey](#), [Bedicheck](#), [Bertha Sadler Means Young Women’s Leadership Academy](#), [Clint Small Green Tech Academy](#), [Girls School of Austin](#), [Gorzycki](#), [Kealing](#), [Kealing Magnet](#), [Lamar](#), [Not Your Ordinary School](#), [Trinity Episcopal School](#)

Hydrofiles 2015-2016



Background

The Hydrofiles, a City of Austin water quality education program, offers professional development for high school teachers, field trips, water test kits, and classroom presentations. Field trips include caving into the Edwards Aquifer and monitoring the schools local creek. All content is focused on scientific research, problem solving and critical thinking and is correlated to the TEKS.

For more information about the program visit www.austintexas.gov/departments/hydrofiles.



Teacher Comment: *“Thank you for doing these lessons! Our school would not have the resources to give our kids this experience otherwise”*

Results

Total number of students reached: **700**

Total number of schools reached: **8**

Participating schools: [Anderson](#), [Ann Richards](#), [Austin](#), [Bowie](#), [Crockett](#), [San Juan Diego](#), [Travis](#), [Westlake](#)

Austin Youth River Watch 2015-2016



Background.

Austin Youth River Watch (AYRW) is a nonprofit organization offering an environmentally-focused afterschool youth development program primarily to underserved high school students. Our students, the "River Watchers," collect, analyze, and publish water-quality data from 27 sites along Austin area streams, creeks, and rivers. River Watchers also work with community partners, such as the Watershed Protection Department, to design and execute hydrological and ecological enhancement projects throughout the Austin area. These projects include activities such as native vegetation plantings, stream bank stabilization, and trail building. AYRW provides modest stipends to River Watchers for their service to our community. In fiscal year 2015, Watershed Protection Department provided funding for AYRW. For more information about the program, visit <http://riverwatchers.org/>.



Student Comment: “I have learned about rivers in Austin. I know what a body of water needs in order to sustain life and stay in good condition and much more.” “Because of River Watch, I can say I did one big thing for Austin.”

Results

Total number of students reached: **103**

Total number of schools reached: **10**

Participating schools: [Akens HS](#), [Austin HS](#), [Crockett HS](#), [Eastside Memorial HS](#), [Lanier HS](#), [LBJ HS](#), [Manor HS](#), [McCallum HS](#), [Reagan HS](#), and [Travis HS](#).

WPD Youth Ed Outreach 2015-2016



Background

Watershed Protection Department receives numerous requests each year for school class presentations and community events targeted at youth. Staff throughout our department step up to provide presentations and table events at fairs. Our educators support staff with needed youth education materials.



Results

Total number of presentations and fairs: **38**

Total number of participants: **6354**

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